

LIZARD RAMONE IN HOT PURSUIT

—A GUIDE TO ARCHIVES FOR ARTISTS AND MAKERS—

WORDS/IMAGES - JEREMY FERRIS
2017



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HI! THANKS FOR READING THIS COMIC BOOK! IT WAS CONCEIVED OF AND PRINTED BY THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY, WORKING IN COLLABORATION WITH JEREMY FERRIS, WHO CREATED ALL THE ILLUSTRATIONS AND TEXT.

WE WORK WITH A LOT OF ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS AT OUR LIBRARY. ONE THING WE'VE NOTICED IS THAT SOME ARTISTS (AMONG MANY OTHER HUMANS) ARE INTIMIDATED BY THE PROCESS OF STARTING RESEARCH IN ARCHIVES OR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS. ARCHIVES HAVE THEIR OWN VOCABULARIES AND RULES, AND IT CAN BE A SCARY WORLD FOR THE UNINITIATED. ANOTHER THING WE'VE NOTICED IS THAT LIBRARIANS AND ARCHIVISTS ENJOY HELPING PEOPLE AND WANT THEIR COLLECTIONS TO BE MORE ACCESSIBLE, BUT DON'T ALWAYS KNOW HOW TO REACH OR WORK WITH CREATIVE RESEARCHERS. WE'RE HOPING THAT THIS COMIC BOOK CAN BE A LITTLE BRIDGE HELPING ARTISTS AND ARCHIVISTS FIND ONE ANOTHER.

THIS BOOK WAS WRITTEN TO BE GENERAL ENOUGH THAT IT CAN BE OF USE TO PEOPLE ALL AROUND THE UNITED STATES. WE'RE DISTRIBUTING IT LOCALLY WITH AN INSERT DESCRIBING ARCHIVES AND HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS IN RHODE ISLAND AND WE'RE ENCOURAGING COLLEAGUES IN OTHER PLACES TO MAKE INSERTS ABOUT RESOURCES IN THEIR OWN CITIES AND STATES. YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS COMIC BOOK, OUR CREATION PROCESS, AND HOW IT'S BEING USED AND DISTRIBUTED AT

WWW.PROVLIB.ORG/HOTPURSUIT

THE WEBPAGE ALSO HAS A DOWNLOADABLE VERSION OF THIS BOOK, IF YOU'D LIKE TO PRINT ADDITIONAL COPIES FOR NON-COMMERCIAL USE. FEEL FREE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WANT TO LEARN MORE.

- ANGELA DIVEGLIA
CURATORIAL ASSISTANT
PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIZARD RAMONE,
RANDALL RUDE (M.L.S.)
AND A ROBOTIC BUST OF DANTE IN...

DANTE'S IN-WHIRR-NO!



HI, YOU CAN
JUST LEAVE YOUR STUFF
AT THE DOOR AND
SIGN IN WITH ME.
LET ME KNOW IF
THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE
YOU WANT TO LOOK AT.

...AM I SUPPOSED
TO BE HERE?
THE DESK DOWNSTAIRS
JUST GAVE ME THIS AND
TOLD ME WHERE TO GO...

SO! YOU
WANTED TO
DROP OUT OF
MODERN LIFE

SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS
+
ARCHIVES
AT
BTPL

GEEZ, I
THOUGHT WE
BURNED ALL
OF THOSE.
THIS IS YOUR
FIRST TIME
COMING IN
THEN?

YEAH, WELL
I JUST CAME IN TO
SEE IF YOU HAD THE LATEST
TELESCOPE QUARTERLY.
SEE IF YOU HAD THE TELESCOPE QUARTERLY.
ISSUE OF ZOOMIN' THE STARGAZER, Y'SEE.
-- I'M A STARGAZER, Y'SEE.
THOUGH IT HASN'T BEEN VERY GOOD LATELY.
THERE'S A NEW DEVELOPMENT RIGHT
NEXT TO MY APARTMENT
THAT'S TOO BRIGHT AND
TALL FOR ME TO
SEE ANYTHING!!

ANYWAY

THEY DIDN'T HAVE THE MAG
DOWNSTAIRS BUT SAID
YOU MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING
TO LOOK AT. THIS IS THE PLACE
RIGHT? WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
WHAT'S TIME ALL ABOUT?
WHAT'S LIKE, PERCEPTION??



BUT-- IF THERE'S A TOPIC THAT YOU
HAVE IN MIND, ASK US AND WE WILL
BE HAPPY TO FIND WHAT WE CAN
FOR YOU.



WHIRRRRRRR

WHEN YOU COME IN

THE LIBRARIAN WILL ASK YOU
TO LEAVE YOUR

COAT
UMBRELLA
BAG
SKATEBOARD
HARDHAT
FLASHLIGHT AND/OR
MUCKBOOTS

BY THE DOOR, ON A COATRACK
OR IN A LOCKER. YOU MAY
ALSO BE ASKED TO WASH YOUR HANDS.

YOU WILL BE ASKED TO FILL OUT
SOME SIMPLE PAPERWORK WITH
YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION AND
WE MAY ASK TO SEE YOUR ID
OR HOLD ONTO IT DURING
YOUR VISIT.

WE WILL ALSO MAKE SURE YOU
UNDERSTAND THE BEST WAYS
TO HANDLE WHAT IS ON DISPLAY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMPLIANCE.
END TRANSMISSION.

N I I

J5F 2017



WHIRRRRR...

slump

UH, WELL, I DON'T
REALLY HAVE A LOT
OF TIME TO LOOK
AT ALL THIS STUFF
TODAY.

THAT'S ALRIGHT WE
CAN SET UP AN
APPOINTMENT FOR YOU SO
YOU CAN SPEND AS MUCH
TIME AS YOU WANT.

THEY SAID DOWNSTAIRS THAT
YOU'D HAVE THINGS I'D LIKE.
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON
SPACE OR TELESCOPES?

YES

IF YOU ASK FOR CERTAIN
SUBJECTS WE WILL DO OUR
BEST TO FIND RELATED MATERIALS.
SETTING UP AN APPOINTMENT IN
ADVANCE HELPS US FIND THE BEST
THINGS FOR YOU.

SO, HOW D'YOU THINK DANTE DID?
HAVEN'T USED IT IN YEARS.

IT WAS WEIRD.
I'LL BE BACK
SOON.

HERE'S THE NEW,
LESS MISANTHROPIC
VERSION OF THE PAMPHLET
IN THE MEANTIME.

THANKS!

LIZARD RAMONE IN...

LIL (PAMPHLET) ANGELS ON MY SHOULDER



LIZARD RAMONE
WALKS HOME, PON-
DERING THE TWO
PAMPHLETS RANDALL
THE ARCHIVIST GAVE
HER...



"WHEN THE SUNLIGHT BURNS, AND THE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE TURN YOUR BRAIN TO PORRIDGE, AND EVERY CAR AIMS TO PLOW YOU DOWN ON THEIR WAY TO THE STRIP MALL, WHERE DO YOU TURN TO ESCAPE?"



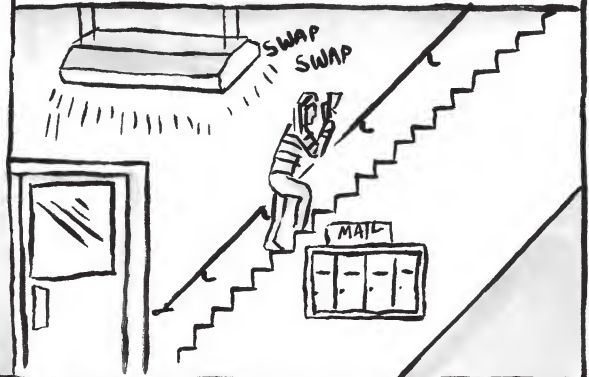
"I BET YOU HAVE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR LOCAL SPECIAL COLLECTIONS OR ARCHIVES, A HAVEN TO SEE AND INTERACT WITH SOMETHING REAL IN THIS SOULLESS VIRTUAL WORLD."



"IT'S NOT UNCOMMON TO FIND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES IN YOUR CITY. TALK TO A LIBRARIAN -THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO TELL YOU WHAT COLLECTIONS YOU CAN FIND NEARBY. EXPECT TO VISIT PUBLIC LIBRARIES, COLLEGES, OR HISTORICAL SOCIETIES."



"LOOKING AT ARCHIVAL MATERIALS ALLOWS YOU TO SEE HISTORIC BOOKS, PRINTS, LETTERS, AND MANUSCRIPTS THAT ARE AS UNIQUE AS YOU ARE!" -GROAN-



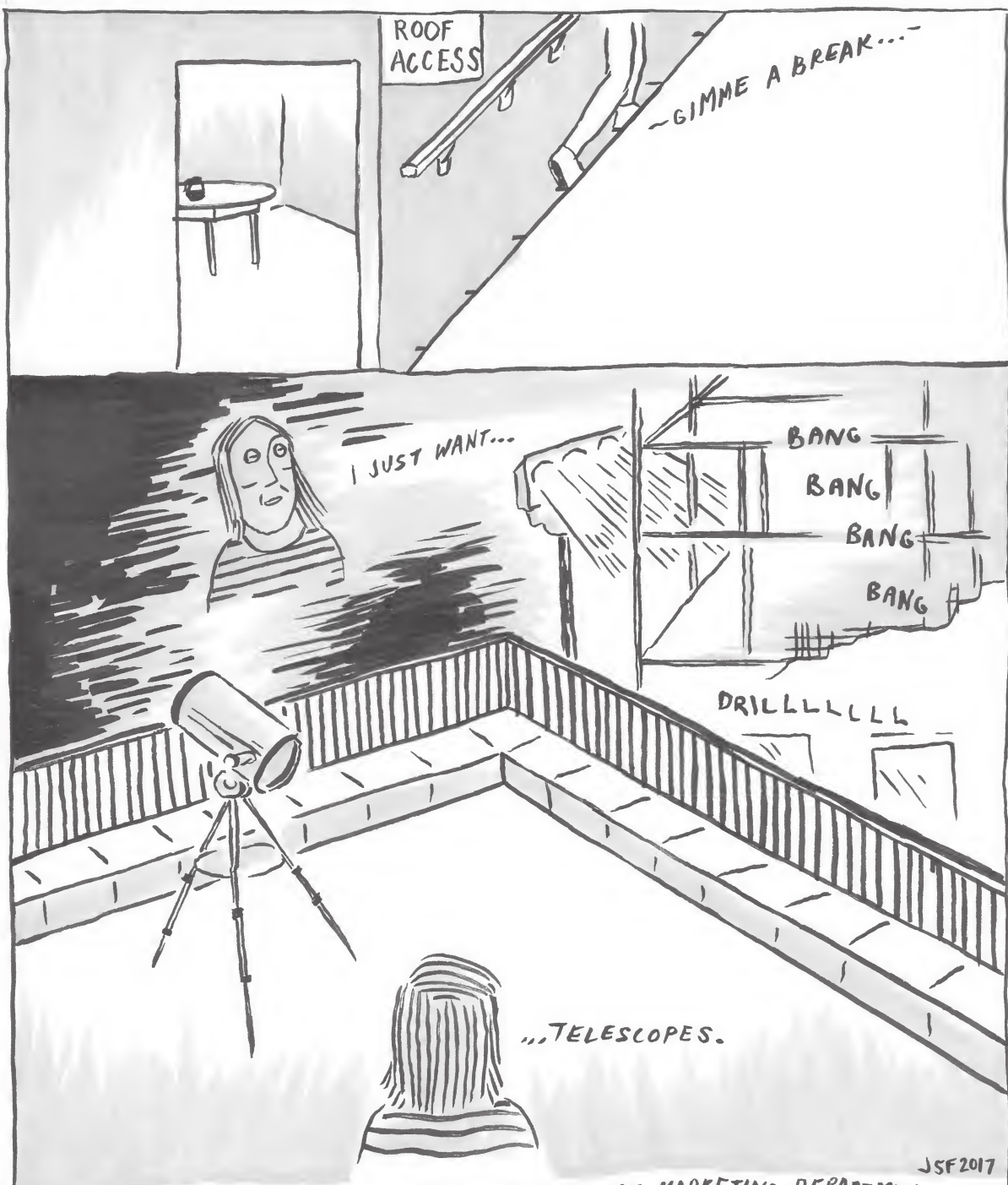
"TO IMMERSE YOURSELF IN ARCAINE MANUSCRIPTS AND REJECT THE GARBAGE OF SOCIETY" -COME ON- "THESE ARE POWERS THE ARCHIVES CAN BRING YOU. IMAGINE BUILDING RADICAL NEW WORLDS FROM IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES FROM FOLK IGNORED UNTIL NOW. ARCHIVES ARE A TOOL OF DESTRUCTION AND FROM DESTRUCTION-- REGROWTH!"

-NO WONDER THEY TOSSED THESE...



"SO COME ON DOWN TO THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS THAT ARE HIDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU! WE'RE HAPPY TO HELP YOU DISCOVER NEW WORLDS. NEW TO YOU, THAT IS! HA HA!"





JSF2017

****THESE BROCHURES PRODUCED BY BTPL'S NON-DEFUNCT MARKETING DEPARTMENT MEAN TO SAY THAT THERE IS A HUGE DIVERSITY OF TYPES OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS + ARCHIVES (FROM THE FEDERAL GOV'T DOWN TO SMALL COMMUNITIES), MATERIALS WITHIN THEM, AND THEIR USE AND USERS. --ED.**

LIZARD RAMONE
 RANDALL RUDE (M.L.S.)
 AND A ROBOTIC BUST OF DANTE IN
AR-CHIVES ARE-CHILL

OUR STORY THUS FAR--
 LIZARD RAMONE HAS
 WAITED ANXIOUSLY ALL WEEK
 TO EXAMINE THE ASTRONOMY
STUFF THAT RANDALL RUDE
 HAS PULLED. THE DAY HAS
 ARRIVED- LET'S SEE
 WHAT THEY'RE UP TO...

DON'T MIND ME,
 JUST HAVE TO
 KEEP AN EYE ON
 OUR RESEARCHERS
 WHEN HANDLING
 THESE MATERIALS

OK!
 OHH..



SNNIFFF
 THESE BOOKS SMELL
 GREAT... LIKE OLD WOOL.



(YEAH THEY'VE COME FROM A LOT
 OF DIFFERENT SOURCES. WE TAKE
 CARE IN NOTING WHERE THEY
 CAME FROM, HOW THEY'VE BEEN
 HANDLED, AND HOW TO STORE THEM.)



THAT ONE WAS FOUND
 UNDER THE REMAINS OF A
 SWEATER WORN BY A DOOMED SAILOR!
 AND NO PENS, PLEASE,
 WE HAVE PENCILS FOR
 YOU TO USE.



HISTORY'S PRETTY NEAT!
 NORMALLY I'M LOOKING
 THROUGH ACTUAL TELESCOPES
 BUT 'CUZ OF THIS DEVELOPMENT
 I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING AT ALL.
 I GUESS THIS IS A
 PRETTY GOOD SUBSTITUTE



I LIKE THE OLD
 DIAGRAMS.





THE LIBRARIAN AND/OR ARCHIVIST CAN HELP YOU FIGURE OUT AN IDEA OF WHAT TO PULL AHEAD OF TIME, EVEN IF IT'S STILL VAGUE [I.E. OLD DIAGRAMS]. OF COURSE, THE MORE DEFINITE YOUR QUESTION, THE EASIER IT IS FOR THEM TO ASSIST YOU.



[LORD ROSSE'S GIGANTIC TELESCOPE]

AND IF MORE THOUGHTS COME TO YOU DURING A VISIT, YOU CAN ASK THE LIBRARIAN AND/OR ARCHIVIST TO RETRIEVE THEM WHILE YOU WAIT!



OR YOU CAN LOOK THROUGH MATERIALS WHILE SITTING IN SILENCE!



MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T LET THAT... THAT... **ROBO DANTE** TALK RIGHT NOW THEN!



THE CHOICE IS ALL Y--





THANKS.

MM.

"PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF
THE 46-INCH CROWN DISC
OF YERKES TELESCOPE"

fig 8

THE LAST CRYSTAL!

EXCELLENT
JOB,
RANDALL,
WITH THIS
WE SHALL
ACHIEVE
TOTAL
ARCHIVES!

ALRIGHT, SEE
YOU NEXT
TIME, THEN!

SEE YOU!

HEY
WAIT...

WHY DOES DANTE
HAVE A CRANK
AND
A PLUG?..

STAY TUNED
FOR THE SHOCKING
REVELATION!

JSE 17

LIZARD RAMONE, RANDALL RUDE (M.L.S.), A ROBOTIC BUST OF DANTE
(+ INTRODUCING WILLIAM CRAPLEY COFFIN) IN...





YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED!

NOW YOU MAY BE ASKING YOURSELF...

? ? ??

"WHAT IS 'FINDING AID'?
CANNOT COMPUTE"



A FINDING AID IS A HELPFUL TOOL TO FIGURE OUT WHAT AN ARCHIVE HAS IN ITS COLLECTION AND WHAT YOU WANT TO LOOK AT.



A CATALOG, LIKE WHAT YOU LOOK AT FOR THE REGULAR LIBRARY COLLECTION, IS MOSTLY A LIST OF WHAT'S AVAILABLE. A FINDING AID IS MORE LIKE A STORY.

-- WHERE A COLLECTION CAME FROM..

WHAT IT CONTAINS...

ITS CONTEXT-

WHY ITS IMPORTANT...



...ALL COMBINED WITH A
LIST OF WHAT'S CONTAINED
IN THAT COLLECTION.

SO BASED ON MY NOTES...
COULD I SEE BOX 17?
MATERIALS FROM 1878?

SURE, I'LL BE
RIGHT BACK.



"WILLIAM CRAPLEY COFFIN BECAME
ENRAPTURED WITH THE STAR CHARTS
OVER THE NORTH ATLANTIC, DRAFTED
BY HIS NAVIGATORS WHILE
CIRCLING THE ARCTIC."



"UNTIL HIS DEATH AT THE AGE OF 114
IN 1906, HE MAINTAINED THAT CAREFUL
EXAMINATION COULD UNLOCK
'INFANTILE DEITIES FROM
THEIR CRIBS OF ICE.'"



LIZARD RAMONE, RANDALL RUDE, AND A ROBOTIC BUST OF DANTE
IN...

CIRC-YOU-LATER!!

HOW'D IT GO LAST NIGHT?
YOU SEEMED EXCITED
TO GET BACK TO
WORK.

IT WAS GREAT.
FIGURED OUT
I NEED THESE,
THOUGH.

HMMM...

BABYLONIAN CONSTELLATIONS...
ANDREW JACKSON BIOGRAPHY...
"SHORE-TO-SHORE" BROADCAST
RECORDINGS...

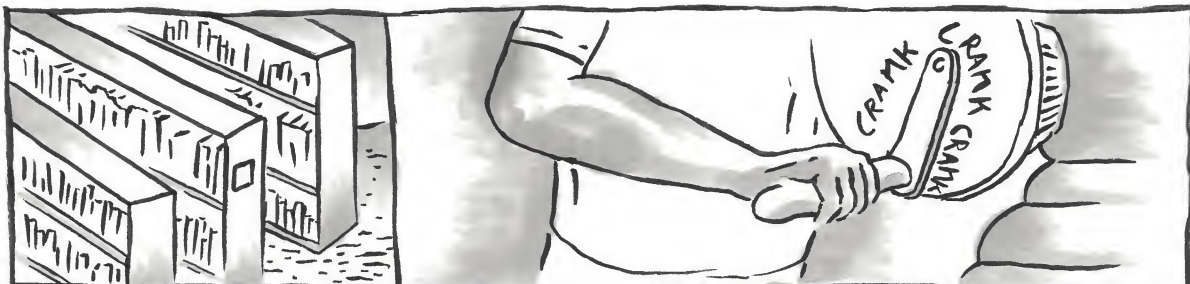
YOU CAN GET MOST OF THESE
DOWNSTAIRS, OR PUT IN
REQUESTS.

OH!

OH...

DO YOU...
WANT HELP
FINDING THEM?

NO... I THINK I'LL BE FINE..
THANKS.



SOMETIMES THE MATERIALS THAT YOU NEED CAN BE FOUND IN THE REGULAR LIBRARY COLLECTION.

❖ SNIFF ❖ OR, THEY CAN BE REQUESTED THROUGH AN INTERLIBRARY LOAN, IF THEY AREN'T AVAILABLE AT YOUR HOME LIBRARY.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND/OR ARCHIVES MAY NOT ALWAYS HAVE WHAT YOU NEED, AND OFTEN, THE THINGS THAT ARTISTS SEARCH BY--VISUAL APPEARANCE OR TECHNIQUE--AREN'T USED IN ORGANIZING THE COLLECTIONS.

STILL, TALKING TO THEM WILL HELP YOU FIGURE OUT WHERE YOU NEED TO GO.



CIRCULATION



ALRIGHT, THESE ARE DUE BACK DECEMBER 21.



AND IT LOOKS LIKE THAT MAGAZINE YOU REQUESTED IS HERE, TOO!



OH, THAT. THANKS.



IT SEEMS LIKE AGES AGO...
I DON'T THINK I NEED IT ANY LONGER.
THANK YOU.



SO MUCH
LEFT TO
DO...



RATATATATA

DANG
BANG

DRILL



I CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT...
MY
POSITION
IS IDEAL!
(WUV)

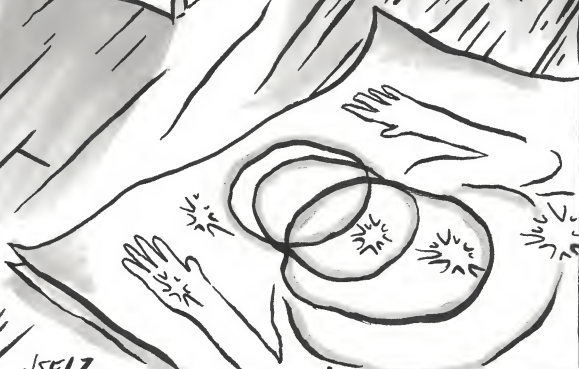
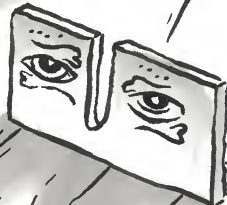


RATATATA

TAT

TAT

TATA

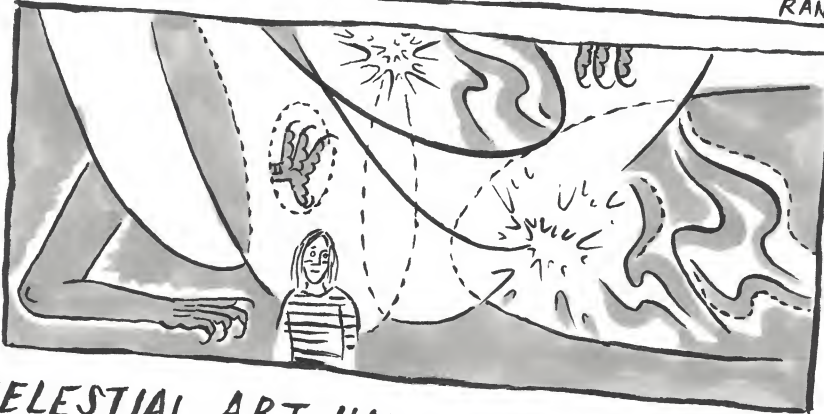


BLUER-TOWN

VOLUME IX No. 12

TRIBUNE

DELIVER TO:
RANDALL RUDE (M.L.S.)



CELESTIAL ART HALTS LUXURY CONDO DEV, LEADS TO LIGHT POLLUTION TERMINATION

"THANKS, MYSTERIOUS AND EARNEST LIBRARIAN," SAYS RAMONE

WIKIPEDIA: A person who works in a library, especially one who is responsible for the collection and organization of books and other materials. The term is also used to refer to a person who is knowledgeable about books and libraries.

BRU-XIOR, ENORMOUS THREE- HEADED BEAST, RELEASED FROM CRIB OF ICE

NON-HIERARCHICAL PROSPERITY AT ALL TIME HIGH
ACCORDING TO GLOBAL COMMUNITY

WIKIPEDIA: A person who works in a library, especially one who is responsible for the collection and organization of books and other materials. The term is also used to refer to a person who is knowledgeable about books and libraries.



LEGISLATORS LAUNCH INVESTIGATION INTO GOATS "HOW ARE THEY SO GREAT?"



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WHO WE ARE --

JEREMY FERRIS IS A LIBRARIAN AND ARTIST BASED IN PROVIDENCE, RI.

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